



The GUNFIGHTER

Volume 16, Number 15

366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

April 16, 2004

Newsline

ACC award winners

Congratulations to the following Air Combat Command logistics readiness award winners:

366th Logistics Readiness Squadron, ACC Logistics Readiness Squadron Readiness Flight of the Year; SrA. **Edward Mueller**, Air Force Fuels Airman of the Year; Mr. **James Blanton**, Air Force Logistics Plans Civilian of the Year; and Maj. **Nicole Slominski**, Air Reserve Component Logistics Readiness Field Grade Officer of the Year

NCOs graduate from academy

Congratulations to the following Gunfighters who graduated the Goodfellow NCO Academy, class 04-3, April 1:

Technical Sergeants **Robert Bolton**, 366th Communications Squadron; **Darrell Castilio**, 366th Security Forces Squadron; **Bruce Comer**, 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; **Paul Derr**, 366th Component Maintenance Squadron; **Darius Drummond**, 366th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Robin Finch**, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Dennis Heinen**, 366th EMS; **Douglas Hiller**, 366th Medical Operations Squadron; **Curtis Jackson**, 366th Aeromedical Dental Squadron; **Richard Jackson**, 366th Maintenance Group; **Jason McCollister**, 366th MXG; **Jeffrey Oyer**, 366th Fighter Wing; **Jenina Rose**, 366th MDOS; **Bobby Singleton**, 366th SFS; and **Dwayne Turner**, 366th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Gunfighters Club holds job fair

There is a job fair today for all military card ID holders from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gunfighters Club. People can talk with employers representing aviation, electronics, hospitality, maintenance, retail, security, law enforcement and many others. People who wish to attend should bring a resume. For more information, call the family support center at 828-2458.

366th MXG banquet to take place

The 2nd Annual Maintenance Group Award Banquet is today at 6 p.m. in Hanger 1333. Tickets can be purchased from any maintenance squadron representative for \$6 for E-5 and below and \$10 for E-6 and above and civilians. Proper attire is BDUs or flight suits for military members and Idaho casual for civilians. The meal will consist of a steak, baked potato with all the fixings, salad, bread and a drink.

Community center holds spa day

A spring spa day is scheduled for Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the community center. The event is free to everyone. Hot tubs, massage tables and vendor samples will be available. There is a chance to win door prizes for those who attend.

Plots made available to residents

The base will provide 30 plots to base residents interested in starting a garden. Garden plots are located adjacent to the base recycling center and horse stables and should be ready for planting around April 26. People interested can stop by the housing office and reserve their desired location now.



Photo by SSgt. Christopher Gish

Former Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Michael P.C. Carns and Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, pin on the rank of colonel for Chaplain Arthur Homer during an official ceremony April 9 at the base chapel.

Former vice chief of staff visits Gunfighters

By Capt. Kelley Thibodeau
Gunfighter public affairs

The common saying, "Once a four-star general, you never retire," rang true for the former Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force and his wife when they visited Gunfighters April 9.

Gen. Mike P.C. Carns' primary reason for visiting the 366th Fighter Wing was to officiate the promotion of Chaplain Arthur Homer to the rank of colonel during a promotion ceremony. Gen. Carns also took the opportunity to speak with first-term Airmen and students of Airmen Leadership School as well as toured the base and attended the Woodland Groves ribbon cutting – the latest military family housing construction project.

A consistent theme of Gen. Carns' talks was his explanation of why he joined the Air Force.

"To me, joining the Air Force means selfless service for a noble purpose," said Gen. Carns throughout the day.

Questions for Gen. Carns varied from his opinions on the latest technologies – F/A-22 and future systems – to remembering favorite assignments and his times in combat. General Carns flew more than 200 missions in Southeast Asia in the late 1960s as a fighter pilot stationed in Thailand.

"Think of this — you had trained for years and years and years, waiting for the opportunity to do what you had

trained for," said Gen. Carns. "Even today, [I expect] most people would not miss combat or a deployment if tasked. If they had the chance, they would ask no questions. That's why we train."

His recognition of the Gunfighter name and spirit dates to those combat days in Southeast Asia.

"I remember seeing the Gunfighters as we met up during missions [in Southeast Asia]," said Gen. Carns. "I was glad to have them around."

His past met his present while visiting here.

"I am honored to visit the wing that began as a concept in the 1990s when I was the Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; it was a concept of projecting airpower forward as a composite wing," said Gen. Carns. "I see Gunfighters just returning from operations in Iraq as a more focused, but still composite fighter wing. These Airmen are proud of their heritage and their ability."

Consistently, Gen. Carns discussed the Air Force's most important asset – its Airmen.

"When I became the Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, we put an emphasis on services and creating quality service programs for our Airmen," said Gen. Carns. "We've come many miles in the last 50 years in the programs that help Airmen and their families transition from civilian to military life. We need to ensure we continue to work on quality services [programs] ... so Airmen don't think that the Air Force doesn't care about them. People are what make the difference and what matter."

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Last DUI: 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

(As of noon Thursday)

Days without a DUI:

16

AADD made 4 saves since April 15, 91 in 2004

Commander's Hotline

This Hotline is your direct line to me.
It's your opportunity to make Mountain Home AFB a better place to live and work.

I review every response to Hotline questions, but functional experts prepare most responses.

If possible, you should first contact the organization responsible for the problem or function.

Your first sergeants, commanders and agency chiefs want to help, so please let them try.

If you do not know how to proceed or if you have already tried your chain of command, then do not hesitate to contact the Hotline at 828-6262 or CommandersHotline@mountainhome.af.mil.

Not all Hotlines are published, but if you leave your name and phone number or e-mail address, I will make sure you get a reply.



Col. Hansen

Col. Blair Hansen
366th Fighter Wing commander

AFAF: NCO believes 'taking care of our own' means on and off duty

By SSgt. Chris Cozzalio
366th Component Maintenance Squadron

When I joined the Air Force eight years ago, I always heard people use the saying "taking care our own." At first I thought that meant professionally; that was, until I was educated about the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign and its purpose.

The AFAF means Air Force people – more specifically, Gunfighters helping each other.

The annual AFAF campaign raises money for four charitable organizations benefiting active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force people and their families, in-

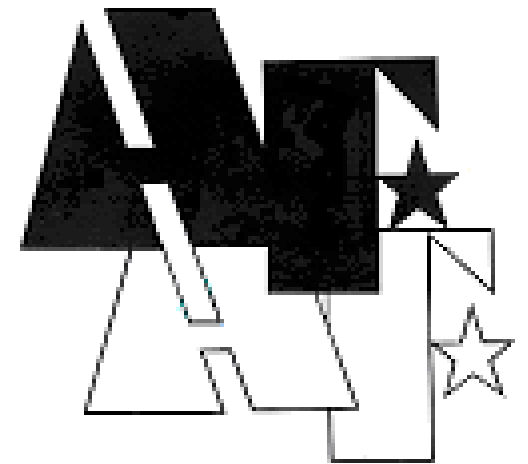
cluding surviving spouses and their families.

Last year, the Gunfighter team pulled together and raised over \$40,000.

Donations to the AFAF campaign can be made through cash or check contributions or payroll deduction.

For just a moment, imagine yourself in the unfortunate shoes of a needy coworker or a friend. Even a little donation goes a long way. You never know; you could be helping the person sitting right next to you. Your money can make a great difference in the life of a fellow Gunfighter.

I've never needed any assistance, but knowing that it would be available should a situation arise, gives me peace of mind. So in saying that, let me thank all of you in advance for your generous contributions.



Gunfighter Justice



(Editor's note: The following information is provided as a public service by the 366th Fighter Wing legal office. Punishments for the same offenses may vary based on facts and circumstances surrounding the offense and the offender.)

A1C convicted during court-martial

An airman 1st class assigned to the 366th Medical Support Squadron pled guilty to using drugs at a special court-martial March 29. Pursuant to his plea, he was convicted of using methamphetamines on multiple occasions between September and January and for introducing methamphetamines to Mountain Home AFB. A four-officer panel sentenced him to 110 days of confinement, reduction to airman basic, forfeiture of \$750 pay per month for three months and restriction to base for 60 days following release from confinement. As is true in most cases where the accused is sentenced to less than four months confinement, he will serve his confinement at the local confinement facility here.



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, (208) 828-6800.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless indicated.

Deadlines: All articles intended for publication in The Gunfighter must be submitted to the 366th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs Office, 366 Gunfighter Ave., Bldg. 512, Suite 314, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho 83648, by noon Friday. All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness. Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity and appropriateness. All articles will be edited to conform with the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual as stipulated in Air Force Instruction 35-101.

Coverage: Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the public affairs office at 828-6800 or by sending an electronic message to pa.news@mountainhome.af.mil.

Classified Ads: Free classified advertisements of a non-commercial nature are published in The Gunfighter on a space-available basis. Free advertising is limited to: Air Force people (active and retired), Department of Defense civilian employees and their family members. Ad forms are available in Bldg. 512. Deadline for free classified advertisements is 5 p.m. Monday.

Welcome to Gunfighter
Country — home of a
winning attitude!



Air Force Awards

1



Rack 'em

Winners



12th Air Force 3

Woodland Groves' newest phase offers base residents better quality of life

By SrA. Chawntain Sloan
Gunfighter public affairs

Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, and Gunfighters celebrated the completion of another phase of the Woodland Groves base housing project during an official ribbon cutting ceremony here April 9.

The new addition houses 66 Gunfighters and their families.

It is the fourth phase of a nine-phase housing construction project that began in fiscal year 2003 and is scheduled to be completed in fiscal year 2008.

The new duplex homes include current design features such as energy efficient lighting and appliances, air conditioning and heating units, solid surface kitchen countertops, vinyl fences and laminated wood flooring.

Many of the older base housing areas are four and sixplex units, offer condensed living spaces and little privacy, and have backyards the size of a small office and swamp coolers, said Ms. Elfie Stoehr, base

"I'd move in, in a heartbeat!"
Ms. Elfie Stoehr

housing office flight chief.

"The living standards [of Woodland Groves] is more inline with how you would build your own home," said Ms. Stoehr. "I'd move in, in a heartbeat!"

Headquarters Air Combat Command created the phased housing construction program to replace existing base housing areas, which were constructed in the post-World War II era.

The Woodland Groves neighborhood also includes walking and biking trails and common areas for playgrounds and parks.

The total number of new housing units once all phases of construction are completed is 1,324 and will cost about \$200 million.

"This is not about numbers and dollars," said Col. Hansen. "This is about winning – winning for our Airmen's quality of life, winning for our families well being and winning the constant battle to retain our professional force."



Photo by Kathy Myles

Gunfighters tour the kitchen of one of the new houses in the Woodland Groves Housing project April 9.

Briefly

Gunfighters defend league title

The Gunfighters baseball team begins their defense of the 2003 Men's Amateur Baseball League State Championship Saturday at 5:00 p.m. at Northwest Nazarene University, located near the intersection of 12th Avenue and Dewey Avenue in Nampa. The team would like to thank the base for its support and looks forward to representing the base and bringing home another championship. They would also like to thank the 13 children who came out to the base gym March 27 to learn about the fundamentals of baseball and meet the players.

New giant voice

A new giant voice test system is being installed throughout the base. Giant voice testing begins Sunday. Expect tests throughout a three-week period.

APAHC to hold meeting

The Asian Pacific American Heritage Committee is holding a meeting Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Bernie Fisher Room at the Gunfighters Club. For more information, call MSgt. Clarke Teruya at 828-6452.

Museum needs volunteers

The Idaho Military History Museum is seeking volunteers. Opportunities for volunteers are always changing depending upon the needs of the museum. For more information, call Mr. Gary Keith at 422-4841 or by e-mail at Gary.Keith@id.ngb.army.mil.

Hospital urges caution when administering meds

By Ms. Marcia Vondran Lutz
366th Medical Group

Acetaminophen is a main ingredient in over-the-counter medications commonly used to relieve fever, headaches, generalized aches and pains. There is an increasing awareness of the potential for an accidental acetaminophen overdose to occur, resulting in liver damage or even death. Adults taking acetaminophen should also be aware that their chances of liver damage increase when drinking alcohol.

When giving medication to children, parents should carefully look at the label of any other over-the-counter products for colds and flu. Failure to check the ingredients of all medications being given could result in a child receiving two doses of the same ingredient.

The Food and Drug Administration estimates about 56,000 emergency room visits and 100 deaths occur each year as the result of unintentional acetaminophen overdose. Symptoms of acetaminophen overdose include excessive perspiration, exhaustion, general discomfort, nausea or vomiting, a yellowing of the white portion of the eyes or a yellowing of the skin.

Acetaminophen is present in more than 600 products that treat pain, cough, cold and flu. It can also be found in many prescription medications. It is very important to read

the product label for key words, such as non-aspirin pain reliever, indicating the product might contain acetaminophen.

Communication is also important for safe medication administration to children. If two adults are giving the child medication, they should write down or discuss the time of the last dose and the amount of medication that was given.

Parents should be especially aware of dosage differences in different acetaminophen products. For example, infants' concentrated drops were developed to allow a smaller amount of the solution be given to the infant to achieve the desired effect. Follow the dosage directions from a physician or the product's label.

For children up to the age of six, a dosage based on the weight of the child is more accurate than one based on age.

It is important not to exceed the recommended maximum dosage for children or adults for any 24 hour period. Also, acetaminophen should not be given for more than three days at the maximum dosage without contacting a medical provider for additional direction. If a medical condition worsens, contact a medical provider.

Important phone numbers to post at home and at work are the Idaho Poison Control Center Hotline at (800) 860-0620, and the base emergency room phone number at 828-7100. For more information call the pharmacy at 828-7481.



Ride hard, shoot straight and always speak the truth



Silver Sage opens new horse stable on base



Mrs. Heidi Balus, Silver Sage Riding Club secretary, holds raffle entries of stable patrons who registered to be the first to use the new stable that opened April 9 at the Silver Sage Horse Stables here while Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, announces the winning entrant.

By 1st Lt. Lucas Ritter
Gunfighter public affairs

The Silver Sage Riding Club commemorated the completion of a new horse stable with a ribbon cutting ceremony April 9.

The informal ceremony was conducted by Mrs. Heidi Balus, Silver Sage Riding Club secretary, and attended by Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, and his family along with other group commanders and riding club members and patrons.

“This project was near and dear to my heart,” said Col. Hansen. “Horses are part of who we are – being in the West and being Gunfighters.”

The colonel has been riding horses for many years, and when he is not using it, his saddle can be seen adorning his office.

The project was the culmination of a year of work on the part of the stable members and their sponsors. The members of the

stable club have been raising money through fundraisers and increased dues in order to pay for the new stable.

“We worked very hard raising money at different events,” said Ms. Balus. “Our biggest fundraiser was at the (Gunfighter Skies 2003) air show where we had a booth both days selling concessions.”

The new stable is a completely new building that has new electrical work, plumbing and fence.

Eventually, the Silver Sage will replace 22 stables that are currently there with new stables. The stables will be able to house 44 horses in all when they are complete.

“The original stables are at least 50 years old and need to be replaced,” said Mrs. Balus. “If funding permits we would like to put up a new stable every six months.”

The use of the first new stable was raffled off to one of the current club members. 2nd Lt. Todd Hardy and his wife were the winners and will be able to move their two horses in immediately.

366th Fighter Wing welcomes new Gunfighters

Parent’s Names: Robin and Kyna Williams
Baby’s Name: **Jayda Shavon Williams**
Birth Date: March 1

Parent’s Names: Mystic and Alec McKinney
Baby’s Name: **Makayla Lynn McKinney**
Birth Date: March 11

Parent’s Names: Chiane and Daniel Garbett
Baby’s Name: **Zoey Jasmine Garbett**
Birth Date: March 20

Parent’s Names Tanya and Elijah Keith
Baby’s Name: **Alexandria Nicole Keith**
Birth Date: March 2

Parent’s Names: April and Daniel Heise
Baby’s Name: **Adam Kenneth Heise**
Birth Date: March 11

Parent’s Names: Massiel and John Spitzer
Baby’s Name: **Christian John Spitzer**
Birth Date: March 24

Parent’s Names Cathryn and Brad Watson
Baby’s Name: **Ella Elizabeth Watson**
Birth Date: March 2

Parent’s Names: Rachel and Steven Edwards
Baby’s Name: **Kaelynn Shelby Edwards**
Birth Date: March 12

Parent’s Names: Katherine and Alfred Fleming III
Baby’s Name: **Zackery Ryan Fleming**
Birth Date: March 26

Parent’s Names: Amanda and Cedric Sotomayor
Baby’s Name: **Dominic Matthew Sotomayor**
Birth Date: March 4

Parent’s Names: Stacy and Douglas Ware
Baby’s Name: **Jaiden Danielle Ware**
Birth Date: March 12

Parent’s Names: Christy and Jeremy Ellis
Baby’s Name: **Emily Ellis**
Birth Date: March 29

Mother’s Names: Miranda Davis
Baby’s Name: **Collin Andrew Davis**
Birth Date: March 5

Parent’s Names: Theresa and Aaron Spike
Baby’s Name: **Noah Richard Spike**
Birth Date: March 14

Parent’s Names: Melissa and Jensen Roerden
Baby’s Name: **Benjamin Conrad Roerden**
Birth Date: March 30

Parent’s Names: Lisa and Sidney Frith
Baby’s Name: **Landon Shay Frith**
Birth Date: March 5

Parent’s Names: Olympia and Eric Morin
Baby’s Name: **Ezekiel Morin**
Birth Date: March 16

Parent’s Names: Kimberly and Douglas Witham
Baby’s Name: **Katarina Jennifer Witham**
Birth Date: March 30

Parent’s Names: Jaci and Gregory Stowe
Baby’s Name: **Kelsi Rae Stowe**
Birth Date: March 7

Parent’s Names: Erica and Joel Shepherd
Baby’s Name: **Leilani Jacinta Shepherd**
Birth Date: March 16

Parent’s Names: Leticia and Antonio Moyett Jr.
Baby’s Name: **Anthony Moyett**
Birth Date: March 30

Parent’s Names: Marchgaret and Robert Craig
Baby’s Name: **Joseph Alex DiCarlo-Craig**
Birth Date: March 8

Parent’s Names: Brenda and Dave Laun
Baby’s Name: **Dawson Cross Laun**
Birth Date: March 17

Parent’s Names: Miriah and Chase Morgan
Baby’s Name: **Avery Morgan**
Birth Date: March 31

Thinking of
buying a car?

Take the contract to the 366th Fighter Wing legal office before signing and they will look it over for **free**. This advice may save people from problems. For more information on how the legal office can help or to make an appointment call 828-2238

Don’t snooze, take advantage of educational opportunities. For more information call the education center at 828-6363.

Back to the future: Headquarters takes Gunfighters on trip back in time

By TSgt. Yancy Mailes
366th Fighter Wing historian

A change took place recently in the wing headquarters building with the addition of several historical displays.

Envisioned as a tool of education, any and all who enter the building receive an instant history lesson.

Late last year, Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, asked that a small group of individuals bring him a concept for the wing remodeling project.

Mr. Mark Slominski, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron, melded a team of base and local people including the Elmore County Historical Society, the 3-Island Crossing Interpretive Center and the Mountain Home School District.

"As I remember, in the initial meeting, the team stressed that they could design the concept in-house and save the government money," said Col. Bruce Wong, 366th Fighter Wing director of staff.

Led by Mr. Slominski, the team passed on the wing's heritage, conveyed the future of the Gunfighters and gave the headquarters building the charm it deserved.

"It was really a good team effort," Mr. Slominski said. "We had folks coming together from areas that usually never work together. It just went over really well."

To pass on the wing's heritage, the history office teamed with MSgt. Joe Eastman, base multimedia manager, and modified an idea from last year's Gunfighter Skies 2003. TSgt. Mike Sibley, 366th Fighter Wing historian, provided the background and photos while MSgt. Eastman provided the talent for the design. The idea eventually evolved into tapestries that now line the walls of the headquarters building.

Mr. Slominski also worked with local downtown historians to build tapestries that told the story of Mountain Home.

"Overall the panels provided the eye candy that entice visitors to stay and learn our history," said MSgt. Eastman.

As far as the wing's future, that is always changing, so the team decided upon an idea that highlighted base construction projects and photo layouts. As visitors climb the stairs to the second floor, they will find photos of Gunfighters in action.

"Overall the project went very well," Col. Hansen said. "I am very pleased with the work our Gunfighters accomplished."



Photos by SSgt. Christopher Gish

MSgt. Clarke Teruya, 366th Fighter Wing, points out a synthetic snake to TSgt. Alfredo Lopez, 366th Fighter Wing. The local area history display pictured above is one of several displays that can be found at the wing headquarters building.



TSgt. Yancy Mailes, 366th Fighter Wing historian, gives Mr. Mark Slominski, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron, some background information about the War on Terrorism display. The bomb featured in the display represents some of new technology Gunfighters used in the Global War on Terrorism.



This display represents Mountain Home and the surrounding areas cultural history.



Capt. Andrew Wirth (right), 366th Fighter Wing, and TSgt. Mailes admire the historical tapestries that line the hallways of the headquarters building.

Earth Day impacts all

By SSgt. Erien Chasse
Gunfighter public affairs

What and when is Earth Day?

When the idea for Earth Day was first conceived it was meant to be a global holiday to celebrate the wonder of life on planet Earth.

The reason behind this was because it is the only time of year when day and night are equal in every country around the planet.

And so it came to pass that people initiated the celebration of Earth Day on March 21, 1970.

The first Proclamation of Earth Day was in San Francisco, the city of Saint Francis, patron saint of ecology.

The day of nature's equipoise was later sanctioned in a proclamation signed by Secretary General U. Thant at the United Nations where it is observed each year.

A few years later Earth Day was moved to April 22.

Earth Day's world impact

Earth Day events, thousands of them around the United States, have become as common as egg hunts on Easter or scary costumes on Halloween.

Tree planting, river bank cleanups, parades, a cynic might dismiss them as feel-good events soon forgotten as participants get back to their real lives polluting and consuming.

But 28 years after the first Earth Day brought out activists and nature lovers, the vast majority of Americans consider themselves "green" throughout the year. And it's not just the granola-crunching, hiking-boot-shod sector of society; more than 50 percent of those in corporate America label themselves "environmentalists" as well.

According to a study by Wirthlin Worldwide, an international public-opinion organization, environmentalism has become part of Americans' everyday thoughts.

Two-thirds of Americans consider themselves actively pro-environment, this report found, while only 4 percent were found to be unsympathetic to environmental concerns.

"Since its extremist beginnings 30 years ago, environmentalism has matured, gaining popular support and becoming part of the mainstream," said the Wirthlin organization. "It's not just about saving whales and rain forests anymore."

Environmental concerns are no longer just for those who

were once considered extremists.

Environmental concerns have even found their way into legislative efforts.

In 2001, a bill to stop logging on national forests was led by Representative Jim Leach of Iowa. Congressmen Rob Portman and John Kasich, two Ohio Representatives best known for conservatism, also sponsored a \$400 million debt-for-nature bill to save tropical rain forests in developing countries in 2001. Earlier that year, Pennsylvania Representative Curt Weldon issued a report by 1,600 scientists urging that the Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts be strengthened to protect the marine environment.

Impact on industry

Businesses, too, are getting on the environmental bandwagon. Many now incorporate environmental tests into their policies and practices.

For example, the average American car is nearly 60 percent more fuel-efficient than it was on the first Earth Day in 1970.

On The Mall in Washington, the National Association of Manufacturers sponsored dozens of exhibits and events meant to celebrate industry's environmental successes in honor of Earth Day.

Included were electric and gas-powered vehicles, advances in recycling and earth-saving manufacturing processes.

Some environmental groups acknowledge the positive impact of industry participation, but there are still many who find fault with them. University of Maine political scientist Amy Fried surveyed staff members of 18 major environmental organizations about whether business-group participation in Earth Day did any good.

"If a corporation is moving to be green, that's just fine," said one such staff member. "Many of today's corporate leaders participated in the first Earth Day in college; it turned them into environmentalists. If they try to co-opt Earth Day, they'll just help spread environmental information."

Still, many experts say it will take more than good intentions and greener attitudes to make a real difference - especially since there are 50 million more Americans now than there were in 1970. Installing a low-flow shower head or making a weekly trip to the recycling center is not enough.

Editors Note: Information for this article came from the World Earth Day Foundation.

Working alongside volunteers, President George W. Bush lends a hand in repairing the Old Boney Trail at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in Thousand Oaks, Calif.



Courtesy photo

Earth Day events

Earth Day booth

As a tribute to Earth Day, the environmental flight is hosting an Earth Day booth at the base exchange Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spring clean-up day

Spring clean-up day is April 23 for base facilities and April 24 for base housing residents. Mr. Dave Kinney and the team from the base heavy equipment shop will make one sweep through all facilities/housing in the morning on the appropriate day to pick up yard wastes, furniture and large appliances. Participants should have everything out by the dumpster (facilities) or on the curb (housing) by 8 a.m. Please use paper bags or plastic bags (left untied) for yard wastes. Paper bags are available at the base self help store, Building 1208. Furniture and appliances are taken to the landfill, and appliances are salvaged for scrap metal. The heavy equipment shop will do the hard part of hauling the items away, but facility personnel and residents are responsible for placing items by the dumpster or on the curb.

Amnesty day

In conjunction with spring clean-up day, the environmental flight is hosting an amnesty day for household hazardous materials April 23 from 8 a.m. to noon. Gunfighters living in base housing can bring household hazardous materials to the base central collection facility, Building 1296, for proper disposal or reissue. Residents are also welcome to visit the household locker. Items in the household locker are available for reissue to residents for household projects and are free.

Help preserve the

- ◆ Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth. This can save gallons of water.
- ◆ Deep soak lawn and flowers one to two times per week instead of watering a little bit every day. This encourages deep roots in plants and increases the survivability of plants during water and heat stress.
- ◆ Cut lawn grass no shorter than three inches. Longer grass height helps shade the soil and conserves water. It also helps discourage weeds from growing, as most seeds need light on the soil surface to stimulate germination.
- ◆ Replace regular bulbs in the most frequently used lamps and light fixtures with energy conserving fluorescent bulbs. The initial cost may be higher, but most bulbs have a longer life and cost much less to light in the long run.
- ◆ Plant deciduous trees on the south and west of the house to provide cooling

shade in the summer and allow sunlight to heat the house in the winter.

- ◆ Plant evergreen trees on the north to help block winter winds.
- ◆ Keep car tuned and change oil and air filters regularly. Also, ensure the tires are properly inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure. These measures will increase gas mileage, extend the life of the car and will prevent pollution.
- ◆ Use the central collection facility here, Building 1296, to exchange paint, glue, pesticides, cleaners and other chemicals. The CCF can also provide Gunfighters with just the right amount of these products for household projects at no cost. For more information, call 828-2726.
- ◆ Use environmentally friendly cleaners like baking soda. (*366th Civil Engineer Squadron*)



**Interested in writing an editorial?
Call the public affairs office at 828-6800.**

